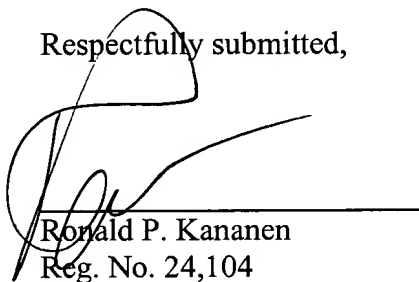


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is requested prior to the initial examination of the above-identified Patent Application case to more precisely identify the invention.

The present invention is believed fully patentable over the cited references, taken singly or in any proper combination. Early notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald P. Kananen
Reg. No. 24,104

Date: August 21, 2000

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER, PLLC

The Lion Building
1233 20th Street, N.W., Suite 501
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel: (202) 955-3750
Fax: (202) 955-3751

Customer No. 23353

DC041350